

**BOROUGH OF CLARKS SUMMIT
BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 3, 2023 Reconvene**

The May 2023 Borough's Special Meeting began with a reconvene from the May 3, 2023 council meeting. This was conducted on Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. The meeting is usually held in Borough Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 304 South State Street, Borough of Clarks Summit, County of Lackawanna and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Council members in attendance were Ms. Gerrie Carey, Ms. Roni Lopez, Mr. Robert Sheils, Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. Joshua Mitchell, Mr. Frank Besten, Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe, Solicitor Hayes, and Mayor Harry Kelly. Kathleen Simrell was absent.

1. Vote on trash contract

President Carey

Ms. Kehoe stated that this vote is only to accept the bid, and which term council would want. Then in the regular meeting council can put together a committee to do some research with Ms. Kehoe on the cost of the four options. During the town hall, ballots were handed out and more than 50% voted to allow J.P. Mascaro to bill the residents. This charge for trash would then be taken out of the residents' property taxes. Sam Augustine spoke to council about the contract. Mr. Augustine stated that the economy has drastically changed. The costs to them have changed extraordinarily in the last few years. One of the biggest issues down the road is going to be with the landfills. In the next 5-7 years there will be an issue. He recommends 5 years with a 2 year option. David Jenkins thinks this makes sense; he agrees with the 5 years with the 2-year extension. Frank Besten stated that the 5 year contract helps with the budget as it would remain the same for 5 years. Bob Sheils stated that the 3 years with the 2 year options is the best deal. Josh Mitchell agrees with Bob Sheils. He is concerned about the lack of competition. He believes this is an issue and more competition changes the situation. Frank Besten made the first motion to accept the 5 year bid, there was not a second. Josh Mitchell made the first motion to accept the 3 year bid option. David Jenkins stated that he would second the motion for the 5 year bid. There is a motion on the floor for the 5 year bid. The vote was 4-2 with Josh Mitchell voting no and Bob Sheils voting no.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

President Carey

- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| • Prior- | N/A |
| • During- | N/A |
| • Subsequent- | N/A |

3. ADJOURN

Josh Mitchell made the first motion to adjourn, seconded by Roni Lopez, vote was 7-0.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL SPECIAL
MEETING MAY 29, 2023
7:00 PM**

The May 2023 Borough's Special Meeting began with a reconvene from the May 3, 2023 council meeting. This was conducted on Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. The meeting is usually held in Borough Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 304 South State Street, Borough of Clarks Summit, County of Lackawanna and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Council members in attendance were Ms. Gerrie Carey, Ms. Roni Lopez, Mr. Robert Sheils, Mr. David Jenkins, Mr. Joshua Mitchell, Mr. Frank Besten, Borough Manager Virginia Kehoe, Solicitor Hayes, and Mayor Harry Kelly. Kathleen Simrell was absent.

1. WORKSESSION:

President Carey

2. Mike Lukas – Clarks Summit Volunteer Fire Company: Tom Curra spoke to council. EMS has been struggling. They were notified that Commonwealth Health EMS was not servicing this area any longer. The fire company stated that volunteers are down. Mike Lukas stated that there are up to 1,200 calls a year. The majority are during the day. They are going to have to look into a paid option. A staffing company is contracted for \$18,000 a month. They are trying to encourage volunteers. They have a staff working 12-hour shifts. The cost is the problem. There is going to be a \$70,000 loss this year. They want to come back to council with real numbers in a few months. Contact federal, state and local leaders for help with this situation would be greatly appreciated.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Carey

Frannie Jones asked about the trash contract. How will the payments be made? Ms. Kehoe stated that they are getting a committee together to discuss this. Ms. Kehoe stated that she can foresee this as being like the sewer billing. Where payments are monthly.

4. DISCUSSION:

President Carey

- Dani Farrell stop sign request: Police stated that they have never had an accident in that intersection. Council tabled this.
- Penn DOT request for N State ST: The discussion was about parking on the side of the street, on the berm in the road. Council tabled this.
- Findings on website providers: Ms. Kehoe talked to companies that would set up a website for the borough. She talked to 4 different companies. One company responded with a very expensive cost. Josh Mitchell wants to get a student to get the website ready. He suggested using WEX.
- Electric contract – APPI: Ms. Kehoe stated that the PSAB has a contract with APPI to get the best electric rates. They are asking for council's support.
- Lou DeMarco with IWDA Engineering: Mr. DeMarco spoke to council. Whenever a company is working in a PennDOT or Clarks Summit right of way, it would mandate the utility contractor or the excavating contractor to have a borough designated inspector there on

the borough's behalf, paid by the utility company. This is to watch out for the borough's infrastructure which is crumbling every day. This ordinance is meant to protect the borough's interest. They would provide the inspectors for this. The One Call comes to them as an email. That One Call tells them that a contractor will be digging in the right of way. They will reach out and let the contractor know that they are working with the borough.

- Special event request from ABPA: If council supports this, they can vote next week.
- Next step in the trash conversion process: Ms. Kehoe stated that there are a lot of questions that need to be answered. The committee members are Gerrie Carey, Josh Mitchell and Bob Sheils.
- Keystone Purchasing Network: Ms. Kehoe was approached by a company that has contractors available so we would not have to go through co-stars. Can we do this, Solicitor Hayes would look into this.
- First Time Homeowner Assistance Project – CDBG: Ms. Kehoe stated that council has to decide how to spend this money. Neighbor works is asking for the borough to help with first time homeowner assistance. This is something that CDBG monies can help with. Some other money can possibly be used at Hillside Park.

5. REVIEW OF JUNE 7, 2023 AGENDA

- 5. ADJOURN:**
Roni Lopez made the announcement to adjourn.

President Carey